

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

MB NO. 1024-0018, NPS FORM
RECEIVED 2280

823

JUN 24 1997

NAT. REG. OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties or districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A) Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classifications, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Cornelius S. Muller House

other names/site number n/a

2. Location

street & number 602 NYS Route 23B [n/a] not for publication

city, town Claverack [n/a] vicinity

state New York code NY county Columbia code 021 zip code 12513

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. ([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

J.W. Aldrich
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation
Signature of certifying official

13 May 97
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. ([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that this property is:
- entered in the National Register.
 - See continuation sheet.
 - determined eligible for the National Register. [] see continuation sheet.
 - determined not eligible for the National Register.
 - removed from the National Register.
 - other, (explain:)

for
Signature of keeper Joshua Savage Date of Action 8/8/97

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (do not include previously listed resources in the count)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	2	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		2	0 Total
Name of related multiple property listings (enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)		Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register	
The Architectural and Historic Resources of the Hamlet of Claverack, Columbia Co., NY		n/a	

6. Function or Use

Historic Function (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling	DOMESTIC/single dwelling
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)
COLONIAL/Dutch Colonial	foundation Stone
_____	walls Brick
_____	roof Wood shingle
_____	other _____

Narrative Description

(describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Cornelius S. Muller House
Claverack, Columbia County, New York

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 2

The Cornelius S. Muller House is a remarkable example of mid-eighteenth century transitional Dutch/English residential architecture. It is situated in the center of the hamlet of Claverack on the south side of the New York State Route 23B (the former Columbia Turnpike). The nominated property includes a five acre parcel (the remains of the once large farm lot) historically associated with the dwelling. The house, which is oriented north, is situated very close to the road.

The one and one-half story, four by two bay dwelling is constructed of brick laid in English Cross bond. The building rests on a stone and brick foundation, which terminates with a molded brick water table. A wood shingle clad gambrel roof covers the house.

The facade faces Route 23B the historic main east/west route through the center portion of the county. This elevation is divided into four bays. The main entrance is located in the westernmost center bay. The entry is composed of a replica Dutch style door set within a simple molded frame. A replica stoop shelters the entrance. Windows in the remaining three bays of this elevation each contain twelve light double hung sash. The windows are surmounted by splayed wood lintels and are flanked by paneled wood shutters. The replicated shutters were copied from a surviving original found in the house. Spaced across the facade are four decorative wrought iron frame anchors, which form the date "1767." The roof on this elevation is pierced on the extreme east and west ends by single shed dormers, which were added to the house in the mid nineteenth century. A central dormer was removed in the 1970s.

The side elevations are similar with no openings on the first floor. The attic story is enlivened with two widely spaced windows containing six-over-six light sash.

The rear elevation features two modern additions. The first wing built ca. 1950 extends from the back parlor along the eastern elevation. The small addition is supported on a concrete foundation and the walls are sheathed with beaded clapboards. In the 1970s the addition was extended length wise across the entire width of the house. The space was used for a kitchen to the west and an office to the east. A center entrance with a Dutch-style door and stoop to match the front was added. The addition is one story in height and is not visible from the front of the structure. The second floor features two dormers identical to the front facade. In between these bays is a dormer containing a double set of windows similar to the windows on either side.

The interior of the Cornelius S. Muller retains a high degree of integrity. The original section of the house is composed of two rooms. To the east is the main parlor with exposed beaded ceiling beams and a restored partial jamb fireplace. The large hearth includes a few original red clay tiles found in the restoration process. The front entrance door opens into the west room of the house. An enclosed staircase is built into the southeast corner of the room. The west wall of this room includes a central fireplace, which is surrounded by raised wood paneling. The finely crafted panel work was installed as part of an extensive restoration of the house in the 1970s. The details for this replica paneling were taken from the ca.1770 Nicholas Schenck House exhibit at the Brooklyn Museum.

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Claverack, Columbia County, New York

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The second floor features three bedrooms and one bathroom. The partitions and layout obviously created after the original construction. In 1767 the attic level would most likely have been divided into two rooms to mimic the first floor plan. Wide plank wood floors appear throughout the main section and the walls are carefully maintained plaster and lathe.

Behind the house is as a one and one-half story outbuilding. Erected ca.1840, the structure is built of heavy timber framing members, which are supported on a stone foundation. The building is sheathed with clapboards and covered by a metal roof. The timber framing in the structure and much of the original hardware survive intact. As part of the restoration of the house the barn, which had fallen into an advanced state of deterioration, underwent an extensive restoration program. Two non-historic appendages were removed from the early structure. Deteriorated or missing siding was replicated and replaced. Although the building has undergone an extensive restoration program, it nevertheless is an important remnant of the early agricultural history of this property and is therefore classified as a contributing feature.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark an "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
[] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
[X] C Property that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
[] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in pre-history or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- [] A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
[] B removed from its original location.
[] C a birthplace or grave.
[] D a cemetery.
[] E a reconstructed building, object or structure.
[] F a commemorative property.
[] G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture
[]
[]
[]
[]
[]
[]

Period of Significance

1767-ca.1840
[]
[]
[]

Significant Dates

1767
[]
[]
[]

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a
[]
[]
[]

Architect/Builder

n/a
[]
[]
[]

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): Primary location of additional data:

- [] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested [X] State historic preservation office
[] previously listed in the National Register [] Other State agency
[] previously determined eligible by the National Register [] Federal agency
[] designated a National Historic Landmark [] Local government
[] recorded by Historic American Building Survey # [] University
[] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # [] Other
Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Cornelius S. Muller House
Claverack, Columbia County, New York

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Section number 8 Page 2

The Cornelius S. Muller house, located on New York State Route 23B (the former Columbia County Turnpike) in the town of Claverack, Columbia County is architecturally significant as a rare surviving example of mid-eighteenth century residential architecture in the region. Built in 1767, the residence is a one and one-half story, four by two bay dwelling constructed of brick laid in English cross bond and covered by a gambrel roof. The house retains a high degree of integrity of setting, location, feeling, association, design, materials and craftsmanship and is an important local landmark.

Cornelius S. Muller, the builder of the house is representative of the early European settlers to Claverack. The descendant of Palatine German and Dutch immigrants, he made his living through farming. The Muller family was quite prolific in Claverack since the name is both Dutch and German Palatine in origin. The 1790 Penfield map marks many parcels with the Muller name. However, this house and property are clearly marked as Cornelius S. Muller. Records show that Muller unlike many of his Dutch-descent neighbors was a patriot during the American Revolution. He was a member of the Committee of Safety, which met in his home.

As built, the dwelling is an outstanding and especially well-preserved example of transitional Dutch/English, mid-eighteenth century domestic architecture in the region. Prior to 1700, rural house construction in Rensselaerwick (the present counties of Albany, Greene, Rensselaer and Columbia) was typified by one and one-half story, rubblestone construction with brick gables. These dwellings rested on stone foundations and were covered by steeply pitched gable roofs. The exterior masonry walls would be tied to an interior frame composed of heavy timbers, by means of wrought iron anchors. Generally, the fenestration pattern in these dwellings was asymmetrical. The Pieter Bronk House (ca.1662, NR Listed:1967) located in Coxsackie, Greene County and the Luycas Van Alen House (ca.1737, NR Listed 1967) are two of the rare surviving examples of this early Dutch house type in the region.

In the early eighteenth century, this traditional rural house type began to evolve. The introduction of the gambrel roof form; the greater availability of brick; and the use of English inspired architectural patterns began to influence the rural house type in the region. In this new form, the former house type became more elongated, symmetrical in design and the steeply pitched gable roof was replaced by the English gambrel roof. Floor plans also evolved from the more functional open plans of the previous century to the more formal center hall, single and double pile plans. Beginning in the mid 1720s a number of these rural houses were built throughout the outlying areas of Rensselaerwick. Extant examples of this type include the Van Schaick House, Cohoes, Albany County (ca.1735, NR Listed:1971); the Tobias Ten Eyck House, Coeymans, Albany County (ca.1750, NR Listed: 1996); Bouwerie, Clermont, Columbia County (ca.1735, NR Listed: 1983), and the Cornelius S. Muller House.

Built in 1767 the Muller house is an outstanding and rare surviving example of this house type. As constructed, the dwelling displays a number of the characteristics associated with this rural property type. These features include the building's

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National Park Service

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Claverack, Columbia County, New York

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rectangular, one and one-half story form, gambrel roof, brick construction laid in English cross bond, symmetrical fenestration and gambrel end chimneys.

Additional architectural significance is derived from the dwelling's intact interior. Most notable of these features are the finely planed, wide plank flooring and the restored partial jamb fireplace.

The property remained in the Muller family for several generations resulting in little disturbance to the exterior of the structure. Today, the Cornelius S. Muller stands out along Route 23B as an unique remnant of the region's early period of settlement.

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Claverack, Columbia County, New York

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Page 2

9. Major Bibliographical References

Blackburn, Roderic and Piwonka, Ruth. A Visible Heritage Kinderhook, New York: Columbia County Historical Society. 1975.

Schram, Margaret. Claverack Township: The History and Heritage. Claverack, New York: Town of Claverack Historical Society, 1976. reprinted. 1983.

Stagton, Kevin. Dutch by Design, Traditions and Change in Two Historic Brooklyn Houses, The Schenck Houses at the Brooklyn Museum. New York, New York: Phaidon Universe. 1990.

Webb, F.H. Claverack, Old and New. Claverack, New York: private published. 1892.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 5.5 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Table with 4 columns: Reference Number, Zone, Easting, Northing. Contains 4 rows of UTM coordinate data.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Explain the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sally Bottiqqi Naramore, Preservation Consultant
Edited by: John A. Bonafide, Program Analyst, NYSOPRHP, Albany, New York
organization Clover Reach date January, 1997
street & number P.O. Box 635 telephone 518-851-2278
city or town Claverack state NY zip code 12513

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Margaret Lampman
street & number P.O. Box 360
city or town Claverack state New York zip code 12513

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Claverack, Columbia County, New York

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the nominated property is shown as the heavy black outline on the accompanying map entitled "Cornelius S. Muller House, Claverack, Columbia County, New York."

Boundary Justification

The boundary for the nomination has been drawn to coincide with the current legal lot for the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Muller, Cornelius S., House

MULTIPLE NAME: Claverack MPS

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Columbia

DATE RECEIVED: 6/24/97 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/09/97
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/25/97 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/08/97
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 97000823

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept C

REVIEWER Savage

DISCIPLINE Architectural History

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 8/8/97

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



1. Cornelius S. Muller House
2. Columbia County NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. January 1997
5. OPRHP
6. North facade, looking south

Photo 1



1. Cornelius S. Muller House
2. Columbia County NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. January 1997
5. OPRHP
6. Front door on north facade,
looking south

Photo 2



1. Cornelius S. Muller House
2. Columbia County NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. January 1997
5. OPRHP
6. West elevation, looking north east

Photo 3

24 06 N N H : 2



1. Cornelius S. Muller House
2. Columbia County NY
3. Ian Nitschke
4. January 1997
5. OPRHP
6. East elevation, looking
north west

Photo 4

20060222



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cont 4

1. Cornelius S. Muller House
2. Columbia County NY
3. Ibi Hindrichs
4. January 1997
5. OPR HP
6. North wall of dining room,
showing front door, looking
north

Photo 5



34 cont 2

1. Cornelius S. Muller House
2. Columbia County NY
3. Ibi Huidrichs
4. January 1997
5. OPRHP
6. West wall of dining room,
looking west.

Photo 6



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cont 4

1. Cornelius S. Muller House
2. Columbia County NY
3. Ibi Hindrichs
4. January 1997
5. OPRHP
6. North wall of living room
(original kitchen area),
looking north

Photo 7



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1. Cornelius S. Muller House
2. Columbia County NY
3. Ibi Hindrichs
4. January 1997
5. OPRHP
6. Original kitchen free hung fireplace with partial jambs (now living room fireplace), looking east

Photo 8

Cornelius S. Muller House
Claverack, Columbia Co.
Claverack Quad
Zone 18 Scale 1:24,000
604090 4675016



Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500446